STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Konsei SHINO

Office of Initial Patent Examination

Appln. No. : 10/563,915 (National Phase of PCT/JP2004/009741

I. A. Filed

: July 8, 2004

Filed

: January 10, 2006

For

: LIGAMENT RECONSTRUCTION DEVICE AND LIGAMENT

RECONSTRUCTION METHOD

COVER LETTER

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window, Mail Stop OIPE Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Applicant hereby submits a Revocation of Existing Power of Attorney and New Power of Attorney identifying the above-captioned application by the serial number of the International Application No. PCT/JP2004/009741, filed on July 8, 2004.

Also attached hereto is a copy of the Official Filing Receipt indicating the Serial Number of the corresponding U. S. National Phase Application, filed on January 10, 2006.

If the should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

> Respectfully submitted, Konsei SHINO

Bruce H. Bernstein

Du 2.1

William E. Lyddane

Reg. No. 29,027

Reg. No. 41,568

May 24, 2006 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P. L. C. 1950 Roland Clark Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191



United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

FILING OR 371 DRAWINGS TOT CLMS IND CLMŚ FIL FEE REC'D ATTY.DOCKET NO ART UNIT APPL NO. (c) DATE 900 900-540 8 10 10/563,915 01/10/2006 3733

CONFIRMATION NO. 5640

23117 NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203

P 25144

FILING RECEIPT OC000000018454900

Date Mailed: 04/07/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Konsei Shino, Suita-shi, JAPAN;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 23117.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP04/09741 07/08/2004

RECEIVED

MAY 0 1 2006

Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2003196055 07/11/2003

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN PLC

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 04/04/2006

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/563,915**

Projected Publication Date: 07/13/2006

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Instrument for reconstructing ligament and method of reconstructing ligament

Preliminary Class

606

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, http://www.stopfakes.gov. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER Title 35, United States Code, Section 184 Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15

GRANTED

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR